DC #5

DIRECT CURRENTS

BOOKS SHIPPING JUNE 7 THRU JUNE 28

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6-issue mini-series

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ongoing monthly series

PLUS . . .

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Cover Of The Month
ANIMAL MAN #2

THE HAWK & DOVE RETURN

His brother, Dove, is dead.

The TEEN TITANS have thrown him off the team.

HAWK is a man living on the edge . . . and just about anything can give him the push that will send him tumbling over into the abyss.

HAWK & DOVE is the story of this man . . . and of the person chosen by the fates and the forces of Order to become his new partner, DOVE.

HAWK has drifted in his turmoil since DOVE died, but now as the battle heats up between the Lords of Order and Chaos, he realizes that only Dove can save him from giving in to his bestial nature . . . if he can be saved at all.

HAWK & DOVE tells of the ghosts haunting an obsessed hero—and of the only hope offered to balance the chaos within him.

The tale of HAWK & DOVE is told in a five-issue mini-series co-written by Barbara Randall and Karl Kesel, pencilled by new DC discovery Rob Liefeld, and inked by co-author Kesel.

HAWK & DOVE . . . theirs is the conflict between chaos and order.

A NEW STARMAN IN THE FIRMAMENT

There have been a number of Starmen on the scene since the 1940s, from the cosmic rod-wielding hero of the Golden Age to the science fiction warrior of the 1970s.

But you haven't seen *anything* like this all-new interpretation of **STARMAN**.

The name may be the same, but that's where all similarities end. STARMAN's a super-hero who doesn't know how he got to be that way . . . or even the full extent of his spectacular powers. He's a man who doesn't know who he is or where he came from.

But that doesn't mean he can't put his powers to good use while he's waiting to find out.

STARMAN is a monthly ongoing series written by Roger Stern, pencilled by Tom Lyle and inked by Bob Smith.

So keep an eye out for STARMAN . . . the newest star in the DC Universe.

THE COMING OF THE NEW GUARDIANS

When the events of the MILLENNIUM were over, the immortal Guardians of the Universe departed from our plane of existence, but they didn't leave the universe unprotected.

Now their chosen successors are here.

THE NEW GUARDIANS.

One day, humanity will look at THE NEW GUARDIANS as the first stage in man's evolutionary destiny. Their offspring will herald a new dawn for mankind—but what manner of world are they destined to inherit? The New Guardians must purge Earth of society's evils today—and pave the way for a new and better tomorrow.

Spinning out of MILLENNIUM, last year's eight-part maxi-series, THE NEW GUARDIANS is brought to you by the creators of that epic tale, writer Steve Englehart, penciller Joe Staton and inker Mark Farmer, with Cary Bates taking over as writer in issue 3. But before that, this ongoing monthly new series begins with a special 40-page first issue.

They're THE NEW GUARDIANS.

Chosen to lead mankind into the future.

Paul Kupperberg, Writer
Peggy May, Editor
Julia Sabbagh, Designer

DIRECT CURRENTS No. 5, May 1988. Published by DC COMICS INC., 666 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10103. Copyright

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GO HAYWIRE

Welcome to the world of **HAYWIRE**.

Who is HAYWIRE? How did he become this unstopping creature of pure, unrelenting rage?

Therein lies the mystery . . . but it's a mystery even to the man who bears that all-too-appropriate appellation. HAYWIRE seeks answers to these maddening questions . . . and pity anyone who gets in his way.

HAYWIRE is a new, ongoing monthly series written by Michael Fleisher, pencilled by Vince Giarrano and inked by Kyle Baker. Published in the New Format, HAYWIRE is suggested for mature readers.

So *welcome* to the world of HAYWIRE . . . and hope you can get out of it alive.

JOIN THE BEST OF THE BRAVE & THE BOLD

Almost 33 years ago, an adventure anthology comic debuted from DC Comics featuring some of the best art and stories of the day. Since it featured the adventures of such heroes of yore as The Silent Knight, The Viking Prince, The Golden Gladiator and Robin Hood, the comic was aptly titled THE BRAVE & THE BOLD.

In the 1960s, the format of B&B changed to feature team-ups of DC super-heroes until, with B&B #74, The Batman became permanent guardian of the title, appearing with a host of guest stars over the next 126 issues.

Now DC re-presents some of the best of the best from the pages of THE BRAVE & THE BOLD in this six-issue Deluxe Format mini-series.

Leading off the series is the classic team-up of The Batman and Green Arrow from B&B #85, written by Bob Haney and featuring the art of longtime BRAVE & BOLD penciller Neal Adams and inker Dick Giordano.

Rounding out the book are a trio of stories from the earliest days of the title, including a tale of The Golden Gladiator, with art by Russ Heath, Joe Kubert's Viking Prince (both from B&B #1), and The Silent Knight, also by Heath (from B&B #5). These masterworks from the past are surrounded by an all-new wrap-around cover by one of today's best artists, José Luís García-López.

THE BEST OF THE BRAVE & THE BOLD . . . in the next six months, you're going to find out what action and adventure are really all about.

FROM • THE EDITOR

"How can I get in touch with or meet _____?" (Fill in the blank with the name of your favorite writer, artist or editor.) That's probably the question I hear most frequently. In fact, one recent Friday—a holiday for most people, but a day on which DC Comics was keeping "normal" business hours—someone called us and asked to speak to one of our writers. He didn't realize that people who work *for* DC Comics don't necessarily work *at* DC Comics.

Our artists and writers work for us on a free-lance basis. Some keep studios, others work at home, but none of them have offices at DC Comics.

One great way to actually converse with an artist or writer is to attend a convention. Shows are held all around the country by local organizations, and there may be anywhere from one guest artist to hundreds, depending on the show. Check your newspaper's calendar listings or a publication such as the *Comics Buyer's Guide* to find one in your area.

Many of our artists and writers also make appearances at comic book stores. There you can have a more "civilized" discussion, since not as many people will be vying for the artist's attention. (I remember an appearance last year, during which the artist got into a political debate with some of the patrons.)

If you don't get a chance to attend a show or a store appearance—or if *your* favorite is one who never ventures to your area of the world (lots of our free-lancers don't travel *at all*)—you can always write. Address the envelope to him or her % DC Comics, 666 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10103. Don't be surprised if you don't hear back. Though the free-lancers enjoy reading your opinions, they don't always have time to write back. It's not easy getting a book out every month, and that's the #1 priority around here. (And we try to impress that on the artists and writers, too.)

DC Comics plans to have lots of folks on the road in the next few months. Just a few of those are: Richard Bruning, Mike Carlin, Dick Giordano, Ed Hannigan, Dave McKean, Jerry Ordway, John Ostrander and Julie Schwartz.

See ya,

Peggy

BOOKS SHIPPING JUNE 7

☐ **ACTION COMICS WEEKLY #610**
David Lloyd's rendition of Deadman (whose story is told inside by Mike Baron, Dan Jurgens and Tony DeZuñiga) is featured on this week's cover. The Phantom Stranger puts in a one-issue appearance in between regular rotating features, by Paul Kupperberg and THE SHADOW's Kyle Baker. Also, Black Canary by Sharon Wright, Randy DuBurke and Pablo Marcos, Green Lantern by Peter David and Tod Smith, The Secret Six by Martin Pasko and Dan Spiegle, and Superman by Roger Stern, Curt Swan and John Beatty.

ACTION COMICS WEEKLY #610

☐ **BATMAN: THE CULT: BOOK TWO**
(of a four-book mini-series)
Deacon Blackfire has broken the Batman's will. Now, subverted to the Deacon's evil ways, the Darknight Detective embarks on a campaign of terror against the citizens of Gotham City. Written by Jim Starlin, with art by Berni Wrightson and full-process color by Bill Wray. Painted cover by Wrightson. *Prestige Format.*

☐ **CAPTAIN ATOM #19**
Some people live in the past, but Captain Atom finds a "child of the '60s" who has to deal with an actual ghost from her past. Meanwhile, Cameron Scott finds a new job. Written by Cary Bates, with art by Pat Broderick and Bob Smith. Cover by Broderick.

☐ **COPS #2**
Bulletproof and his Central Organization of Police Specialists (COPS) are all that stands between Empire City and the criminal empire of the Big Boss. But will they be enough? Written by Doug Moench and pencilled by Pat Broderick.

☐ **DETECTIVE COMICS #590**
The Batman starts off as the hunter as he tracks a murderer to London but ends up the hunted when he's trapped by a cadre of terrorists determined to destroy him. Written by John Wagner and Alan Grant, with art by Norm Breyfogle.

☐ **THE NEW GUARDIANS #1**
From out of the pages of MILLENNIUM come . . . The New Guardians. They were chosen to help usher in the new age for mankind, and now they're about to discover just how hard a job that's going to be. This special 48-page first issue is by the MILLENNIUM creative team of writer Steve Englehart and artists Joe Staton and Mark Farmer. Cover by Staton. *New Format.*

☐ **POWER GIRL #4**
(of a four-issue mini-series)
Power Girl at last faces the Weaver, the source of all her miseries . . . but this showdown is about more than her life. It's about the fate of the world and the future of Chaos and Order. Written by Paul Kupperberg, with art by Rick Hoberg and Arne Starr. Cover by Kerry Gammill and Dick Giordano.

POWER GIRL #4

☐ **THE QUESTION #20**
The circus is in town, but something going on at this sleazy traveling show has got the Question very interested. And Myra is up to her neck in a circus of her own . . . Hub City's politics. Written by Denny O'Neil, with art by Rick Magyar. Cover by Cowan and Bill Sienkiewicz. *Suggested for Mature Readers. Deluxe Format.*

☐ **THE QUESTION ANNUAL #1**
The conclusion of the DETECTIVE COMICS/GREEN ARROW/QUESTION crossover. The Question uncovers Lady Shiva's real mission and joins with guest stars Green Arrow and The Batman to stop her. If they can. Written by Denny O'Neil, with art by Denys Cowan and Rick Magyar. Cover by Cowan and Bill Sienkiewicz. *Suggested for Mature Readers. Deluxe Format.*

☐ **THE SPECTRE #18**
Jim Corrigan is dead. Again . . . this time for good, and time is running out for the Spectre as he seeks a new host body before his spirit is reclaimed for all eternity. Written by Doug Moench, with art by Chris Wozniak. Cover by Pat Broderick and Wozniak. *New Format.*

☐ **SUICIDE SQUAD #17**
Just when it looks like the Squad can take some time off, the Jihad holds Manhattan for ransom, demanding a rematch to the death. Written by John Ostrander, with art by Luke McDonnell and Bob Lewis. Cover by Joe Brozowski and Karl Kesel.

☐ **THE WANDERERS #4**
Psyche's had a dream of monsters and babies . . . but it takes a look into Clonus's shocking past to explain it. Written by Doug Moench, with art and cover by Dave Hoover and Robert Campanella. *New Format.*

☐ **WASTELAND #10**
Want to get even weirder? Join writers John Ostrander and Del Close as they explore the vast reaches of the Wasteland. Joining them this issue is guest artist Tim Truman, along with regular Wasteland artists David Lloyd and William Messner-Loebs. Cover by Donald Simpson. *Suggested for Mature Readers. Deluxe Format.*

BOOKS SHIPPING JUNE 14

☐ **ACTION COMICS WEEKLY #611**
Introducing the irregular four-part "Showcase" feature spotlighting upcoming series, beginning with The Catwoman by Mindy Newell and Barry Kitson. Also featuring Black Canary, Green Lantern, Deadman, The Secret Six and Superman, who is featured on this week's cover by Alex Niño.

ACTION COMICS WEEKLY #611

THE BATMAN: YEAR ONE
Trade Paperback Edition
Who he is and how he came to be . . . The Batman: Year One. The landmark mini-series from THE BATMAN #404-407 by writer Frank Miller and artist David Mazzucchelli is presented in this deluxe edition, recolored in full-process color by Richmond Lewis. All four issues of the original series are here with every bit of the drama and excitement. New cover by Mazzucchelli.

THE BRAVE & THE BOLD #1
(of a six-issue mini-series)
The long-running DC title THE BRAVE & THE BOLD featured some of the best in art and adventure. Now we reprint the best of the best, starting with the Batman/Green Arrow team-up from B&B #85, written by Bob Haney, with art by Neal Adams and Dick Giordano. Also, the Golden Gladiator with art by Russ Heath, the Silent Knight, also by Heath, and the Viking Prince, with art by Joe Kubert. The new wraparound cover is by José Luís García-López. *Deluxe Format.*

CHECKMATE #7
A trio of Knights head into enemy territory as they invade Qurac to put an end to an international arms-smuggling ring controlled from the Quracan royal palace. Written by Paul Kupperberg, with art by Steve Erwin and Al Vey. *New Format.*

FIRESTORM THE NUCLEAR MAN #76
Brimstone's back . . . and now he's Firestorm and Firehawk's headache. And even if the Nuclear Man survives that, Doreen's got a gun and the bullets have Ronnie's name on them. Written by John Ostrander, with art by Joe Brozowski and Sam De La Rosa.

FIRESTORM THE NUCLEAR MAN #76

FLASH #17
The adventures of Speed McGee continue as Flash gets back on his feet at full speed once again. Written by William Messner-Loebs, with art by Greg La Rocque and Larry Mahlstedt. Cover by George Pérez.

HAWK AND DOVE #1
(of a five-issue mini-series)
Hawk's a man living on the edge. His brother is dead. The Titans have thrown him off the team . . . and now he's caught in the middle of the battle between Chaos and Order. Written by Barbara Randall and Karl Kesel, with art and cover by Rob Liefeld and Kesel.

JUSTICE LEAGUE INTERNATIONAL #18
The Cluster is running scared with the League in hot pursuit. Running scared, that is, until the arrival of Lobo. Also, the return of the *old* Guy Gardner. Written by Keith Giffen and J.M. DeMatteis, with art and cover by Kevin Maguire and Al Gordon. *Plus:* DC Bonus Book #7, as "Mister Miracle Builds His Dream House," by new talent discoveries writer Mark Askwith and penciller James Webb.

MANHUNTER #4
What is the secret that lies behind the mysterious masks of Dumas and Olivia? Manhunter has to survive the macabre collections of Cliff House to find out. Written by John Ostrander and Kim Yale, with pencils by Doug Rice and Kelley Jones. Cover by Rice.

SWAMP THING ANNUAL #4
Swamp Thing must save Gotham City from a horrible fungus creature that has infected everyone . . . including The Batman. Written by Steve Bissette, with art by Pat Broderick and Ron Randall. Also, a *private lives* story featuring chief Cajun Gene LaBostrie, written by Bissette, with art by Mike Hoffman. Cover by John Totleben. *Suggested for Mature Readers. Deluxe Format.*

V FOR VENDETTA #2
(of a ten-issue maxi-series)
One by one he picks his victims . . . and strikes before anyone knows he's there. Who is the mysterious V? Written by Alan Moore, with full-process art and painted cover by David Lloyd. No ads. *Suggested for Mature Readers. Deluxe Format.*

WONDER WOMAN #21
The Gods must make way for the new order to come . . . and they start by destroying Mount Olympus. Can the Amazons survive the shock? Written and pencilled by George Pérez and inked by Bob McLeod. Cover by Pérez.

WORLD OF METROPOLIS #3
(of a four-issue mini-series)
What was Clark Kent's life like before he decided to don the familiar red and blue uniform of Superman? The story is told here, written by John Byrne, with art by Win Mortimer, Dick Giordano and Frank McLaughlin. Cover by Byrne and Giordano.

YOUNG ALL-STARS #17
The origin of Neptune Perkins concludes in part two of the four-part "Coming Race" story as the All-Stars go into action against Dr. Thule and The Vril. Written by Roy and Dann Thomas, with art by Mike Bair and Malcolm Jones. *New Format.*

BOOKS SHIPPING JUNE 21

ACTION COMICS WEEKLY #612
The Secret Six are spotlighted on this week's cover by Paul Gulacy. Also featured are Catwoman, Black Canary, Green Lantern, Deadman and Superman.

ACTION COMICS WEEKLY #612

THE BATMAN #424
The killer of a beautiful woman is protected by diplomatic immunity. The police can't touch him . . . but maybe Robin can. If he's willing to pay the price. Written by Jim Starlin, with art by Mark Bright and Steve Mitchell.

GREEN ARROW #9
The surviving characters from the Prestige Format GREEN ARROW: THE LONGBOW HUNTERS limited series are reunited. Green Arrow is blackmailed into working for the Agency, putting him on a collision course with Shado and Yakuza. Written by Mike Grell, pencilled by Ed Hannigan, inked by Dick Giordano. Cover by Hannigan. *Suggested for Mature Readers. New Format.*

HAYWIRE #1
Welcome to the world of Haywire, an unstoppable creature of unrelenting rage. Who is he and where does he come from? Not even Haywire himself can answer that. Written by Michael Fleisher, with art and cover by Vince Giarrano and Kyle Baker. *Suggested for Mature Readers. New Format.*

HELLBLAZER #10
The Resurrection Crusade concludes . . . with Constantine stuck in astral form, unable to rescue his girlfriend from religious fanatics. Swamp Thing guest stars and the story continues in SWAMP THING #77. Written by Jamie Delano, with art by new regular artist Richard Piers Rayner. Painted cover by Dave McKean. *Suggested for Mature Readers. New Format.*

☐ **THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES #51**
Brainiac Five is on trial for murder as an injured Mon-El makes a most necessary journey back to his homeworld. Written by Paul Levitz, with art by Keith Giffen and Mike DeCarlo. Cover by Steve Lightle. *Deluxe Format.*

☐ **SECRET ORIGINS #31**
A special book-length tale featuring the secret origin of the Justice Society of America, the first super-hero team. Written by Roy Thomas, with art by Mike Bair and Bob Downs.

☐ **SGT. ROCK SPECIAL #1**
Reprinting the classic two-part tale from OUR ARMY AT WAR #162 and #163, "The Prince and The Sergeant," featuring the meeting of Sgt. Rock of Easy Company and the legendary Viking Prince. Written by Bob Kanigher, with art by Joe Kubert. Plus, a science fiction war story by Bob Haney and Neal Adams. Cover by Kubert.

☐ **STAR TREK #55**
Finnegan and Kirk are teamed as the identity of the assassin is revealed and peace is at last restored to the *Enterprise*. Written by Peter David, with art by Tom Sutton and Ricardo Villagrán. Cover by Jerome Moore and Kez Wilson.

☐ **SUPERMAN #22**
The conclusion of the three-part mystery of Supergirl as Superman joins forces with Lex Luthor to decide the ultimate fate of the pocket universe. Written and pencilled and inked by John Byrne. Cover by Byrne. (Last Byrne issue.)

☐ **TAILGUNNER JO #2**
(of a six-issue mini-series)
Gunner and Jo are being chased by the crab-ships and they finally learn what these ships are after . . . and the answer makes them very mad indeed. Written by Peter Gillis and pencilled by Tom Artis. Cover by Artis and Ty Templeton. *Suggested for Mature Readers. New Format.*

☐ **WHO'S WHO IN THE DC UNIVERSE UPDATE '88 #3**
(of a four-issue mini-series)
All the latest information on DC's updated and newest characters, from Prankster, Psi-Phon, Quislet, Shado, Silver Swan and many more, featuring art by DC's top talents.

BOOKS SHIPPING JUNE 28

☐ **ACTION COMICS WEEKLY #613**
Nightwing is featured on the cover by Mike Kaluta as his series premieres, by writer Marv Wolfman and penciller Chuck Patton. The Phantom Stranger appears in the first of a two-part tale, by Paul Kupperberg and penciller Kerry Gammill. The Showcase feature continues Catwoman by Mindy Newell and Barry Kitson. Also featured are Green Lantern, Superman and Black Canary.

☐ **THE ADVENTURES OF SUPERMAN #445**
The terrible transformation begins anew . . . and not even The Man of Steel can save an innocent soul from the insidious evil of Brainiac. Written by John Byrne and Jerry Ordway, with art by Ordway and Dennis Janke. Cover by Ordway.

☐ **ANIMAL MAN #2**
A beast stalks the streets of San Diego . . . just the sort of prey Animal Man was born to stalk in the concrete jungle. Can Buddy Baker pass the first true test of his powers? Written by Grant Morrison, with art by Chas Truog and Doug Hazlewood. Cover by Brian Bolland.

☐ **THE DOOM PATROL #13**
The Doom Patrol plans to resume their search for the Chief . . . plans that change drastically when Power Girl shows up at their door to enlist them in the battle between Order and Chaos. Written by Paul Kupperberg, with art and cover by Erik Larsen and Al Gordon.

☐ **FLASH ANNUAL #2**
Wally West's dad, a former Manhunter (from the MILLENNIUM series) turned private detective, is back, and he's got a job for Flash guarding a ton of . . . bricks? Written by William Messner-Loebs, with art by Mike Collins and Al Gordon. Plus, a *private lives* story starring Chunk, by Messner-Loebs, Greg LaRocque and Larry Mahlstedt. Cover by Collins and George Pérez.

☐ **FLASH GORDON #5**
(of a nine-issue maxi-series)
Flash has formed alliances with the races of Mongo, and Ming the Merciless is *not* happy about it . . . so he moves to destroy Vultan's sky city. Written and pencilled by Dan Jurgens and inked by Bruce Patterson. Cover by Jurgens and Patterson. *New Format.*

☐ **THE NEW TEEN TITANS #48**
The Russians want Red Star back, but the Titans aren't about to let Hammer & Sickle of the People's Heroes get him . . . if they can help it. Written by Marv Wolfman, with art by Eduardo Barreto and Romeo Tanghal. Cover by Barreto. *Deluxe Format.*

☐ **POWER OF THE ATOM #3**
Strobe, a new villain out to make a reputation for himself, chooses the much-publicized Atom as his first target. Meanwhile, the press hounds Ray Palmer's ex-wife, and the CIA makes plans for his future. Written by Roger Stern, with art and cover by Dwayne Turner and Kez Wilson.

☐ **THE SHADOW #15**
An artifact-crazed rock star wants to add something of the late Shadow's to his collection, so he pursues the sons of the Shadow on their trek to the Far East with their father's body. Written by Andy Helfer, with art and cover by Kyle Baker. *Suggested for Mature Readers. Deluxe Format.*

☐ **STARMAN #1**
There's a new star in the DC Universe . . . a new super-hero who doesn't know his origin . . . or even what he can do with the incredible powers of the all-new Starman. Written by Roger Stern, with art and cover by Tom Lyle and Bob Smith.

☐ **SUPERMAN BUTTON SET**
Superman's 50th anniversary continues with this set of four buttons reprinting classic poses of the Man of Steel by four classic Superman artists: Joe Shuster, Curt Swan, Jerry Ordway and John Byrne. This is a limited edition of 10,000 numbered sets.

SUPERMAN BUTTON SET

☐ **SWAMP THING #77**
Continuing the tale from HELLBLAZER #10. Abby is pregnant, but the entry into her life of John Constantine only adds to the problems she's already facing. Written by guest scripter Jamie Delano, pencilled by guest artist Tom Mandrake and inked by Alfredo Alcala. Cover by Dave McKean. *Suggested for Mature Readers. New Format.*

☐ **WHO'S WHO IN THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES #6**
(of a seven-issue maxi-series)
The inside information on the 30th century's greatest heroes continues, covering characters from Sensor Girl to Timber Wolf. Written by Barbara Randall and featuring art by Keith Giffen, Greg LaRocque and others. Cover by Valentino and George Pérez.

people at WORK

KARL KESEL

So far, Karl Kesel has managed to work several projects into his career as a comics inker, starting with the LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES, progressing through the LEGENDS and HISTORY OF THE DC UNIVERSE mini-series, then onto SUPERMAN and, most recently, as co-writer as well as embellisher of the HAWK AND DOVE mini-series debuting this month.

All in his first four years of professional work.

That's an impressive résumé, but then, Karl is an impressive talent, as his work over John Byrne, George Pérez and others has proved.

Karl was born January 7, 1959, in Rochester, New York. He was attracted to art early. "I used to draw stick figures of cars crashing into walls and blowing up," he recalls, laughing. "I did those for about four years and then started drawing people with no necks and no legs . . . I'd always draw them standing behind walls. I *still* have trouble drawing legs.

"I discovered comic books in 1969 when my family took a car trip across the country. I used to read comics to fight the boredom of those daylong drives. I decided that being an artist was something that I could hate a lot less than anything else I'd ever thought of doing.

"Once I made up my mind, I applied to the Joe Kubert School and was accepted. While I was studying there, I decided that I really wasn't a penciller. I didn't have the patience to pencil trees and stuff like that, so I started inking other people's stuff at the school."

After graduation from the Kubert School, Karl attended the Hartford Art School in Connecticut. "I thought it wouldn't hurt to attend a regular art college. I did some film work there, including a monster movie preview about a guy who eats radioactive cookies. It was called *Fig Mutants*."

Following that, Karl moved to New York City to try his hand at breaking into the comic book industry. "The first thing I had published was on the new talent page in *Marvel Age*, but it was Sal Amendola who gave me my first break. I inked Stan Woch's pencils on a story called "Bobcat" for an issue of NEW TALENT SHOWCASE.

"Karen Berger saw that story and put me on the LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES, inking Terry Shoemaker and then Dan Jurgens. I had a lot of fun doing that. After that, I moved on to 'MAZING MAN and AMETHYST.

"Then I got tapped to do the LEGENDS mini-series with John Byrne and then, out of nowhere, they picked me to ink George Pérez on the HISTORY OF THE DC UNIVERSE Prestige Format mini-series. That was a *real* big break for me, because it got people noticing my work.

"Anyway, after HISTORY, I got the assignment to ink SUPERMAN over John Byrne. I did that for fifteen issues. I guess that was my fifteen issues of fame that Andy Warhol was always talking about."

Karl left SUPERMAN to pursue a project of his own creation, or, as it turned out, co-creation, the HAWK AND DOVE mini-series. "When I was working on HISTORY, there was this page dedicated to the dead heroes, and as I inked the character Dove, I got the idea for the new Dove. The idea germinated for a year or more. Barbara Randall kept saying I should talk to someone at DC about it and she finally took the idea to Mike Carlin. He called, we talked, and it got rolling. Because Barbara and I'd been throwing ideas back and forth the whole time, and I wanted to write the series but didn't have the experience to do it by myself, we decided to co-write it."

Co-writing HAWK AND DOVE is not the first Kesel/Randall "team-up." Engaged for more than a year, Barbara and Karl were married May 7 in California.

"So I'll be co-writing HAWK AND DOVE as well as inking it," Karl says. "We met Rob Liefeld at San Diego last year and he's pencilling the book.

"We came up with a real reason for there to be a Hawk and Dove. They're not just a chance super-hero team but have a lot to do with the Lords of Order and Chaos.

"I remembered Hawk and Dove from the TEEN TITANS and something always appealed to me about Hawk. He was like The Batman, only a lot stupider. I liked the idea of this character who had all that power but no foresight. When he gets mad he's this unstoppable machine that keeps ripping things apart."

Karl continues, "The characters have a supernatural origin so we'll be dealing with that aspect of their background, but this isn't a magical sword-and-sorcery comic. Hawk and Dove are super-heroes. If anything, the book is a lot like an Arnold Schwarzenegger movie, with lots of action and guns and explosions."

Asked about projects to follow, Karl just laughed. "Right now, I'm working overtime to finish HAWK AND DOVE before the wedding and honeymoon, and after that, who knows? There are a few possibilities I'm discussing with various editors at DC, but no final decision's been reached yet."

When the decision is finally made, you'll read about it here in DIRECT CURRENTS. We're sure you'll want to keep up with Karl Kesel, if only to see what he's going to do next.

The BRAVE and the BOLD®

From the archives of the DC Comics library, we bring you the cover of THE BRAVE AND THE BOLD #1 (1955), the first of a 200-issue run.

10¢
ALL NEW STORIES AUG.-SEPT.
The BRAVE and the BOLD
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
THE GOLDEN GLADIATOR
THE VIKING PRINCE
THE SILENT KNIGHT
INVITATION
IF you dream of riding in thundering chariot--if you year to explore unknown seas — you are ready to wield a clashin sword to guard an astoundin secret--then--The Golden Glad ator, The Viking Prince, and Th Silent Knight invite you to jo them in blazing adventures fro now on as a member of . . . . THE BRAVE AND THE BOLD!